

Remarks/Arguments

A. Status of the Claims and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13 and 17-19 are cancelled. These claim amendments should be entered in response to the Final Office Action, as they place this case into a condition for allowance. In particular, the pending claims (claims 1-12 and 14-16) are allowed (see page 3 of Final Office Action).

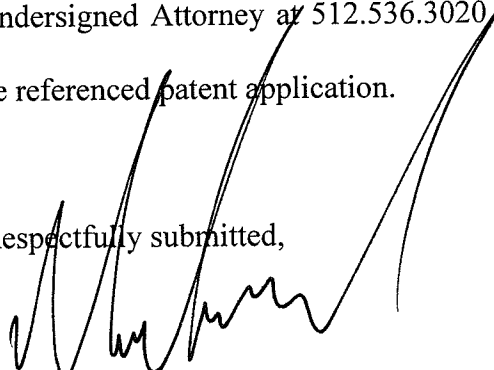
B. The Obviousness Rejection Is Moot

Claims 13 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent 6,322,860. Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner, claims 13 and 17-19 are cancelled. Therefore, the current obviousness rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

C. Conclusion

Applicant believes that this case is in condition for allowance and such favorable action is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Attorney at 512.536.3020 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


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